

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the amendments above and the following comments.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 3, 4, 8-15 and 17-19 are allowable in substance. With the amendments above, Applicants have incorporated the substance of claim 3 into claim 1 without prejudice to prosecuting the broader subject matter in a divisional application.

Applicants believe that this application is now in condition for immediate allowance. However, should any issue(s) of a minor nature remain, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned at telephone number (212) 808-0700 so that the issue(s) might be promptly resolved.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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